

**Golf Commission Meeting
March 24, 2008
Minutes**

Members Present: Tom Galla, Chairman; Sue Casey; Don Espach; Owen Evans; George Furkiotis; Bruce Gerstman; Tony Johnson

Members Absent: Jim Steidlmayer

Chairman Tom Galla called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Review and approval of the Minutes

Review and approval of the Minutes of February 25, 2008... There was a motion made by Mr. Gerstman seconded by Mrs. Casey to approve the minutes with a change to page 5 under Finance to state that the 18-hole rates (except senior and junior) increase by "\$2". Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Mr. Galla moved to nominate Owen Evans as Vice-Chairman, seconded by Mr. Gerstman. There being no further nominations, the clerk cast one unanimous ballot for Owen Evans.

Mr. Galla acknowledged Mr. Evans as a tireless worker who had both the energy and desire to work as the Vice-Chairman of the Golf Commission.

Audience Participation

- None

Director of Golf Course Property Report (Hidalgo Nagashima)

Labor:

- Director of Operations – Golf Course Properties
- Superintendent
- Mechanic
- Four full-time greensmen
- Three part-time greenskeepers

Maintenance Department Outline:

- All 19 greens on the Knolls have been aerated. The Glen will be aerated in approximately two weeks. The collars and tees will be aerated on March 25th and the greens will be top-dressed.
- The bunker on #3 is finished and will be sodded on Wednesday. The bunker is tied into the drainage system and has the proper matting underneath.
- The drain on #18 will be finished on March 25th. It appears there is another pocket of water to the right of the drain. The area will be monitored and can be tapped into the installed drainpipe.
- The UI has been contacted once again regarding the lights in the parking lot. No definite date has been established.
- Most of the tree work has been completed for this fiscal year with the exception of some stump grinding.
- The turf blankets will be removed on #7 and 8 greens on the Glen this week.
- The bunkers will be edged and re-sanded now and will be done more thoroughly when additional staff is added.
- John DeVecchio has informed Mr. Galla that the restaurant parking lot will be re-paved before the end of April.

Mr. Galla asked Mr. Nagashima about the work that was accomplished over the winter.

Mr. Nagashima listed the following completed projects:

- The guardrails were installed on the cart paths on the Glen.
- Numerous trees were removed on the Glen and on the wetlands.
- Vast quantities of brush were removed on the Glen.
- The drain on #18 on the Knolls was completed.
- The bunker on #3 on the Knolls was re-made.
- The drain on #3 on the Glen was completed.
- The trenches for the lights on the parking lot were completed.
- Large rocks were placed on #14 on the Knolls to prevent snowmobilers from entering the course.
- The entire maintenance staff worked outside for the vast majority of the winter.
- Removed the old power pole on #9 Glen.

Golf Pro/Director of Golf Report (Bobby Brown)

Overview:

- The golf course is preparing for its 2008 Opening Day of March 27th. The weather cooperated to allow a two-day preview. We had a total of 167 players on Good Friday and the Saturday. Revenue for the two days exceeded \$10,000

Operations:

- The tee time reservation policy was amended to reflect advance booking of seven days versus ten. The reason is in a 10-day period there are three duplicate days (i.e. two Wednesdays). The seven days allows for less confusion for the staff and golfers. The weekly rack will remain at 10 days.
- The cart rental age has been increased from 16 to 18 with a valid driver's license.
- All carts have been power washed and waxed. It was determined that the ranger carts were set at a slower pace than player carts and the situation was corrected.

- We will be renting 12 additional gas carts for a monthly charge of \$75 each rather than a day rate of \$45. This will save us money over renting additional carts for tournaments.
- All starters/rangers have undergone training.
- The new driving range mats are being tested. The range expansion is in the final stages with topsoil and sod needed to complete the project. Mr. Brown acknowledged the good work of Mr. Nagashima and the maintenance staff.

Marketing:

- The Trumbull Times, Channel 17, and our web site have been promoting the Season IDs.

Tournaments:

- The 2008 outing season will begin on May 5th with St. Thomas Aquinas. We lost the Barnum Festival and CT Post to Fairchild Wheeler. The Trumbull Republican party has expressed an interest in a tournament.

Mr. Evans made a motion; seconded by Mr. Furkiots to approve the Don Miklus Memorial tournament to benefit junior golf with a shotgun start on August 18th, 2008 at resident rates. Motion carried unanimously.

Junior Golf:

- Extra dates and times have been added to the April schedule to accommodate early demand. Sign up for summer camps started on March 15th and is 25% booked already.

Greens Committee (Owen Evans)

- Mr. Evans asked about the storage of excess equipment from the restaurant in the old cart barn. Mr. Galla informed him that we have sent correspondence to Mr. Faustini to correct the situation.
- Several sections of the fence by the cart barn were blown down during the winter. It was determined that a third bracket should have been installed on each section during initial installation. Replacement sections have been purchased and additional brackets will be installed on all sections.

House Committee (Tony Johnson)

- Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that the problem with the lack of hot water to the kitchen was determined to be a mixing valve. The town plumber will replace the valve on March 25th.
- Mr. Johnson reported that the condition of the floor in the ladies room is unacceptable. Mr. Galla informed him that we have sent correspondence to Mr. Faustini to correct the situation.

Executive (Tom Galla)

- Mr. Galla informed the Commission that Mr. Don Espach has been named as chairman of the Finance Committee. The Executive Committee now consists of Mr. Galla, Chairman; Mr. Evans, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Johnson, House Committee Chairman; and Mr. Espach, Finance Committee Chairman.
- The Executive Committee met on an emergency basis to discuss a change in policy to the tee time reservations and golf cart driving age. It was felt it was necessary to establish these two policies prior to opening day to be consistent all season.

Mr. Evans made a motion; seconded by Mr. Espach to approve a change in the reservation tee policy from 10 days to seven (weekly rack to remain at 10 days) and to change the driving age for golf carts from 16 to 18 with a valid driver's license. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a brief discussion as to exactly what authority was given to the Executive Committee to make decisions on an emergency basis. Mr. Galla will look into the matter and report back to the Commission.

Finance (Don Espach)

- The Board of Finance made the following changes to our budget:
 - Overtime Salary: \$-5,557
 - Uniforms: \$-614
 - Seminars: \$-7,000
 - Dues: \$-1,000
 - Vehicle Repair: \$-1,000
 - Heat: \$+1,054
 - Total Reduction: \$-14,017

Correspondence

- Mr. Galla recapped a letter he sent to the Board of Finance to clarify some issues brought up during our recent meetings. The Board questioned a 10% rate increase, which was actually a weighted average increase of 6.5%. The elimination of the \$2 reservation fee would actually negate an increase in many instances. The rate increase was also necessary to bring up the balance of the emergency surplus fund. Mr. Galla also explained the necessity of the general manager position for several reasons including managing a \$2 million budget, 27-holes of play, increases in junior and women's golf programs, and the necessity to make quicker decisions.

New Business

- None

Old Business

- Mr. Galla informed the Commission that Gralor Inc. would be sent a letter reminding them of the need for updated certificates of insurance.
- The tentative opening date of the Glen course is April 15th.

Executive Session

A motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter was made at 8:25 PM by Mr. Evans; seconded by Mr. Gerstman. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 PM was made by Mr. Furkiotis; seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adjourn at 9:48 PM was made by Mrs. Casey; seconded by Mr. Evans. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Plumeau
Golf Commission Clerk